to evolve a united stand on International issues of common concern, terrorism, sub-regional cooperation and people to people contacts. Conventions on Preventing and Combating the Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution and the Convention on Regional Arrangements for the Promotion of Child welfare in South Asia were also signed.

(c) The discussions at SAARC Forum are held on the basis of an agreed agenda. The Kathmandu Declaration issued at the end of the Summit spells out the consensus decision arrived at by the Summit.

(d) India was able to achieve goal of exploiting issues related to economic cooperation, and in getting its main concerns on the issue of terrorism are reflected on the Final Declaration.

(e) The Eleventh SAARC Summit adopted the Kathmandu Declaration as the final document. A copy of the Declaration is provided herewith, for the Hon'ble Member's information and perusal.

Formulation of economic diplomacy

1247. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has recently gathered some sectoral notes from key countries in the areas of prime economic interest to India, like Energy Security, Investment Policy Infotech, Pharma, Patents etc. for policy formulation by the various ministries;

(b) if so, the highlights of major inputs received so far from the Envoys and the steps taken to share the information with the concerned Ministries for fresh policy initiatives; and

(c) the other schemes worked out, if any, to strengthen the economic diplomacy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Reflecting the growing importance of economic diplomacy in today's world, Minister for External Affairs has been emphasizing the importance of economic work in the Indian Diplomatic Missions. As

a part of regular economic work, Indian Missions send reports with relevant inputs. These are always shared with the concerned Ministries. Our Heads of Missions have identified a number of economic areas for specific bilateral action as well as for promotion of regional and sub-regional cooperation.

List of fugitive militants to United States

1248. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has given a list of 22 fugitive militants, criminals and economic offenders to the United States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) by when the U.S. Government is likely to send these offenders and criminals to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the New Extradition Treaty between India and the United States, which came into force in July 1999, provides a legal framework for extradition of fugitives from one country to face criminal proceedings in the other country. Under this arrangement, law enforcement agencies on the two sides periodically review pending extradition cases in both countries.

Anti-Indian activities in Bangladesh

1249. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item, captioned "Militants get Dhaka address" published in the Hindustan Times dated the 17th February, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government are aware that Bangladesh is fast emerging as a favourite destination for the terrorists and militants for cross-border terrorism against India;